

NSA STAFF PROCESSING FORM

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TO
 D/DIR

EXREG CON



KCC CONTROL NUMBER
 J9837B-92

THRU

ACTION

EXREG SUSPENSE

☐ APPROVAL

KCC SUSPENSE

☐ SIGNATURE

ELEMENT SUSPENSE

☒ INFORMATION

SUBJECT

FOIA Appeal - Arnold Beichman - Hoover Institution

DISTRIBUTION

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND: (C) Mr. Arnold Beichman of the Hoover Institution submitted a FOIA request in December 1992 for "U.S. intercepted encoded Soviet messages...together with their decoded contents," specifically VENONA material originated during 1936-1947. All of the documents were denied in their entirety. Mr. Beichman appealed the decision in July 1993. In September 1994, the D/DIR decided that, pending GCHQ concurrence, the documents should be processed, in order to release segregable portions. Rona Lerner (N5P5) called Mr. Beichman in September 1994 to clarify that he seeks only the original Soviet messages and our translations. As of May 1995, GCHQ approval had not yet been obtained. At the request of the DCI, D/DIR decided that we would process the U.S. portions of the materials for release. An interim response was sent to the requester on 31 May explaining that the documents were undergoing a declassification review.

(U) The appeal response provides Mr. Beichman with copies of 49 Venona translations which are concurrently being released to the public (the National Cryptologic Museum and NARA) and explains his judicial review rights. Deletions to the documents are made by NSA in accordance with (b)(1), (b)(3)/all statutes, and (b)(6) of the FOIA. We are also providing Mr. Beichman with a copy of the introduction and translation guide that will accompany the public releases. These are the first of over 2,000 translations we anticipate releasing by July 1996. Mr. Beichman will receive copies concurrent with each public release.

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

COORDINATION/APPROVAL

OFFICE	NAME AND DATE	SECURE PHONE	OFFICE	NAME AND DATE	SECURE PHONE

ORG.
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PHONE (Secure)
 963-4057

DATE PREPARED
 27 June 1995